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The PC Chronicle

Vol. 18 No. 21

Monday, March 6, 2000

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Hoosier ADAPT promotes disability awareness at PUC

KINTAN D. BRAHMBHATT
Copy Editor

This month PUC celebrates Disability Awareness Month with the efforts of Hoosier ADAPT, the PUC chapter of American Disability Attendant Program Today. The special attractions include an information table, "question of the day" and the dance party at the end.

"March being the Disability Awareness Month, we will try our best to create a feeling of harmony among all of the people at Purdue Calumet," Andrea Murray, president of Hoosier ADAPT, said.

"We will host a table in the SFLC concourse to inform the students and the faculty members about the problems and the concerns of the disabled people around us," she added.

"The table, which is sponsored by Berry Fitzner, the coordinator of the services for the students with disabilities, will also serve as a fund raising project for the disabled as it will sell promotional badges, candy bars and postage during the month," Murray said.

Hoosier ADAPT has done several projects for the welfare of students with disabilities on the campus.

"We have tried to make the student life easier for the disabled students. We voted for and promoted the projects like installation of automatic doors, the new elevator in SFLC as well as the promotion and installation of the computer program Natural Speaking in the Student Support Services Office," Murray said.

Natural Speaking, the program for the adaptive computer, is taught to the students with disabilities by Kathy Puntillo, an adaptive computer trainer.

"To help the students with disabilities, who come to our office on their own will, gives me the real job satisfaction. I learn many things while teaching the students," Puntillo said.

"Everyone should equally benefit from the development of the technology. We are trying to help the students with disabilities to use the benefits of the technology with the help of adaptive computers," she added.

"Natural Speaking is a very helpful tool which allows the persons with disability to use the computers. Kathy is a very good teacher and she makes sure that the student understands the program," Murray said.

Hoosier ADAPT has been receiving cooperation from the students, faculty and community members.

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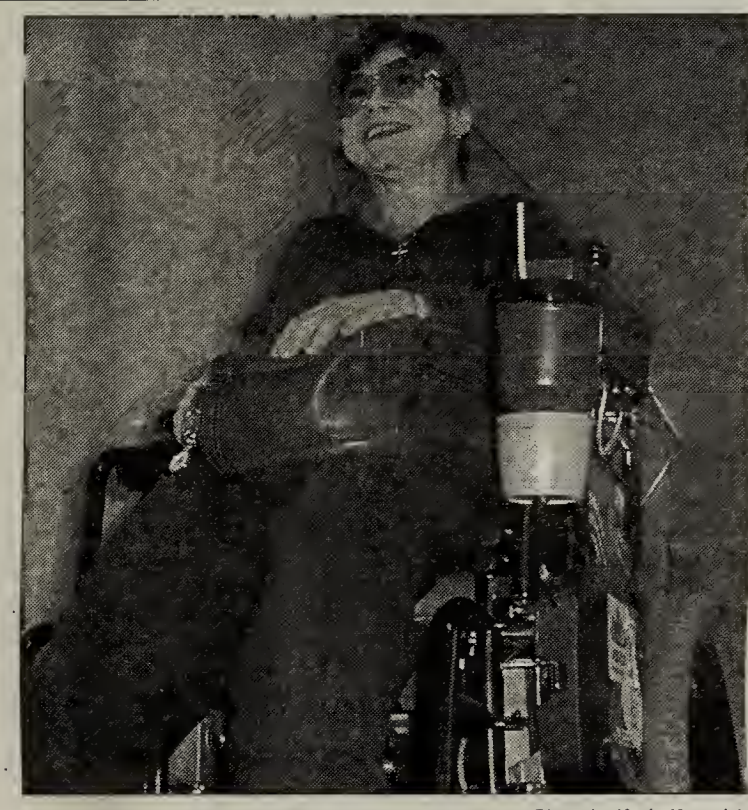


Photo by Kevin Kosovich

Every day is a new challenge for Andrea Murray, president of Hoosier ADAPT. She faces obstacles on a daily basis that many other students don't, such as narrow door ways, water fountains and bathroom entrances.

PUC Entrepreneurship Program celebrates growth in local businesses

SONYA GIBSON
Staff Writer

PUC's Entrepreneurship Program celebrates the enrollment of its 10th class last week. In the past five years, nearly 200 business owners have taken part or are taking part in the program.

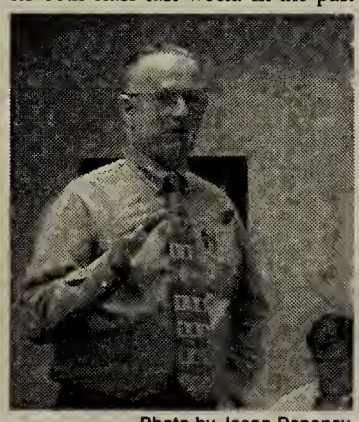


Photo by Jason Dananay

Robert Pollock, a visiting instructor in the school of management, speaks to participants in the Entrepreneurship Program about the legal aspects of running a business.

The program began in 1995 and has since grown to include a program offered in Chicago.

PUC offers business owners a 22-month program the opportunity to use skills and knowledge attained immediately in their own business.

"These are independent minded people who don't want bosses." Jamaluddin Husain, the executive director of the program, said.

Husain said most of the classes consist of business owners who never received a college degree.

Pamela Sutko, the program's director, said the group set up a culture that reflects their business needs. Instead of using the word classroom, it is referred to as a meeting room. She said it consists of facilitators instead of teachers and everyone is on a first name basis. Sutko said there are no titles to create equality among the group.

Husain said there are no educational requirements, but the owner must be in business at least two years. Ages of participants vary from late '20s to early '80s. Each program takes a maximum of 20 people. The group meets from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The program is split into three segments. First, the group spends six months meeting once a week. Next, they spend four months meeting every two weeks and doing free consulting for other businesses. Husain said the group breaks down to include four groups of five for this task.

"What the group leams in the first six months, they apply in the next four. Confidence is built in this stage," he said.

Husain said the final 12 months include the groups going to each other's businesses. Each must act as chairman of the board and give a formal presentation to the group about their business.

The program has seen incredible success in the last five years.

See Entrepreneurship, Page 3

Fair helps students make 'major' decision

JADE LEE CULBERSON
Copy Editor

Thumbing through the course book, you hit a state of panic. Your sweaty hands shake as they attempt to turn the pages. Several majors are available, but all you can think about is your throbbing headache that has turned the book into a 300-page blur.

Students have the opportunity to seek the guidance that PUC has to offer.

The fifth annual majors fair will be held on March 6 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the SFLC concourse.

The University Division, the Office of Academic Affairs and the Purdue Alumni Association-Calumet are sponsoring the majors fair this year.

In addition to the academic departments being represented, the Office of Financial Aid, the Counseling Center, Student Support Services and various others will have tables in the dining area where students can ask questions. The graduate school will also be there for students interested in finding out more about their programs.

According to Cathi Kadow, an academic counselor, the majors fair started out as a program for students who had not yet declared a major. Many students now take the opportunity to find out more about other departments. Students who are interested in adding a minor or a double major often use the majors fair as a chance to find out about those options.

The academic departments being represented are behavioral sciences, biological sciences, chemistry and physics, communication and creative arts, construction technology, electrical engineering technology, engineering, English and philosophy, foreign languages and literatures, history and political science, information systems and computer programming, manufacturing engineering technologies and supervision, mathematics, computer science and statistics. In addition, the schools of management, nursing and education will be represented.

According to Yahya Kamalipour, the acting head of communication and creative arts department, most of the faculty members from the communication department will take turns working at the majors fair. The communication department will be handing out brochures explaining the degree programs and "bingo sheets," a list of the classes needed for their major.

According to Charles Tseng, a professor of biology, approximately seven faculty members will be representing the biological sciences department. They will be distributing information and letting students know about the various programs within the biology major.

"The majors fair gives students a chance to talk to professors and to learn about all the different programs in one place," Tseng said.

Staton Award offered in women's study program

JEN BERG
Staff Writer

The women's studies program will be offering PUC students a chance to qualify for the Shirley Staton Award from now until March 21.

This award is in honor of Shirley Staton, a professor of English at PUC for 18 years. She was involved in establishing the women's studies program on campus.

This award is given to candidates who demonstrate an active interest in the women's studies program. The award will be presented to the winner at the student awards banquet on April 21.

To qualify for the award, the applicant must be a student at PUC with at least 12 credit hours and have a GPA of at least 3.0 on the 4.0 scale. A preference is given to students who minor in women's studies or are pursuing an associate of arts degree with a concentration in women's studies. Those taking courses in women studies are also eligible.

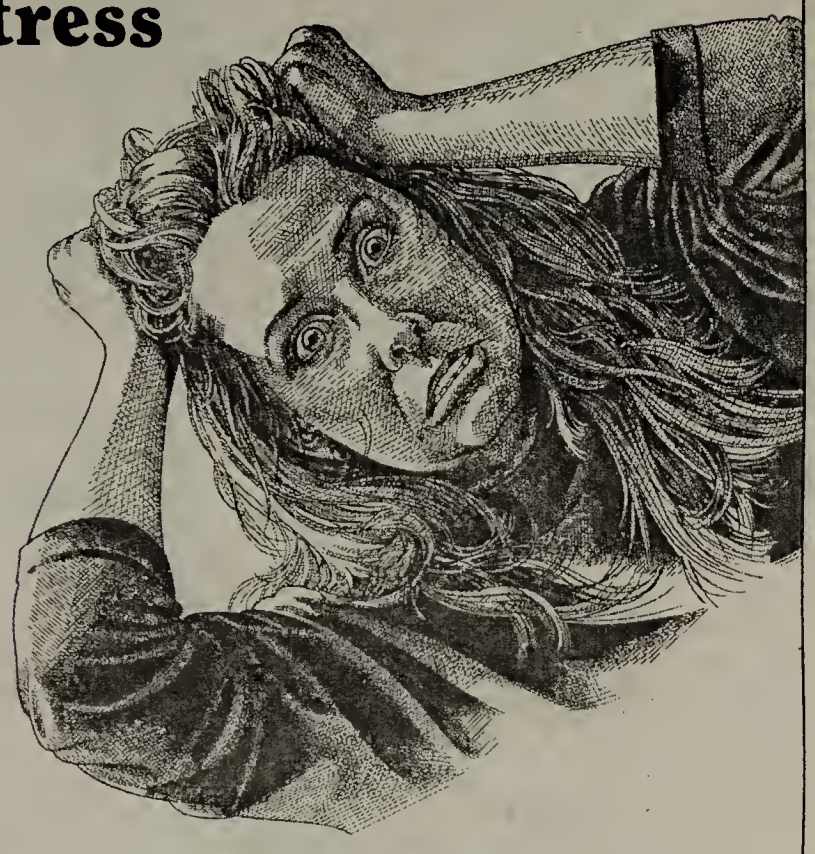
"Anyone who does work for women's rights in the Region is eligible as well," Amy Sprengelmeyer, project coordinator for the Northwest Indiana writing project, said.

See Women, Page 3

The International Film Series continues with the Polish movie "Interrogations" on March 21 at 7 p.m. in CLO-110.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Introducing... a workshop this week to deal with mid-term exam stress



Arguably, mid-term and final exams prompt the most stressful times of the academic year for students.

That's why, with mid-terms on the horizon, the Office of Student Support Services is offering workshops this week to help students *deal with test anxiety.*

"With all the traffic we get in our office at this time of year, it's pretty apparent students are uptight about their mid-terms," Director of Student Support Services Fred Williams said. "So we thought offering these anxiety workshops would be a good way to help students relieve stress."

Workshop schedule

The one-hour workshops are free and open to all students. They are scheduled as follows:

• Monday (3/6)	3 p.m.	SFLC 327
• Wednesday (3/8)	11 a.m.	SFLC 317
• Thursday (3/9)	9 a.m.	GYTE 113
• Thursday (3/9)	1 p.m.	GYTE 015

About the workshops

Conducting the workshops will be Student Support Services Academic Coordinator Mary Ann Frenchik and Student Support Services Counselor Michaeline Florek. The two facilitators plan to address stress from two perspectives:

- nuts & bolts suggestions/tips for dealing with it, and
- relaxation techniques for overcoming it

One nuts & bolts suggestion Frenchik says she plans to share with workshop attendees is that of data dumping.

"A data dump is when you go into an exam and the test is handed out to you, you first write down on scrap paper all important test information you have in your mind to help you from forgetting it or mentally freezing up," Frenchik said.

Among techniques Florek plans to introduce to help students relax is one relating to visualization—which is, learning how to imagine or focus on safe, comfortable, non-threatening environments during test-taking.

"There will be handouts," Frenchik said, "and while the same workshop will be presented at each scheduled session, students are invited to attend as frequently as they desire. That can be especially helpful for those who want to get a firm grasp on the relaxation techniques."

For more information, phone the Office of Student Support Services (ext. 2728), or visit the Office (SFLC 341/343).

At a glance

around campus

Greek Explosion 2000

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. presents Northwest Indiana's largest stepshow hosted by WGCI's own Romonski Luv. A $500 prize will be awarded to the winning sorority and fraternity. The event will be held March 25 at Westside High School in Gary, Ind. The doors open at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10 in advance and $15 at the door. For more information call (219) 939-9525 or (219) 977-8078.

SGA looking for a logo

The SGA is planning to create a new logo for the new millennium. The SGA is asking for students to submit any ideas to the SGA office or in a logo box in the SFLC concourse. The logos will be evaluated at the April 1 SGA meeting.

Ethics in Industrial Organizations presentation and discussion held

Roger Biosjoly, the man who tried to stop the Challenger from being launched that fateful in January, 1986, will speak at PUC in the Student Center, Alumni Hall on April 6 at 7 p.m. Biosjoly will discuss Ethics in Industrial Organizations and the Challenger Accident. The presentation and discussion is free and open to the public.

Society for human resources management schedules meetings

The society for human resource management will be meeting on various Tuesdays throughout the semester. The society's meeting will be scheduled as follows:

March 7 at 5:15 p.m. G-108
March 28 at 5:15 p.m. G-108
April 4 at 9:45 a.m. G-113
April 11 at 5:15 p.m. G-108
April 25 at 5:15 p.m. G-108

Bible study group

Campus Ministry International is holding an Endtime study every Tuesday from 12 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. in SFLC-321 for all who are interested. Other studies offered by CMI are Creation vs. Evolution Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in SFLC-317 and God's Infallible Word on Thursdays at noon and 3 p.m. in the SGA Senate Chamber. CMI also offers on and off campus Bible studies at arranged times. For more information e-mail CMI at cmipuc@axp.calumet.purdue.edu or call Joe or Bryan at (219) 989-0498.

Scholarship, career assistance funds available

The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation awards $3 million in fellowships and grants each year. Funds are available to graduate scholars, women advancing careers, public school teachers and community activists. Only to women are eligible to apply for the 2000-2001 funds, and women of color are strongly encouraged to apply. For more information, visit www.aauw.org/3000/fdnfelgra.html or call (319) 337-1716.

National women's conference

Interested students are invited to attend the National Women's Studies Association Conference to be held June 13-18, 2000, at Simmons College in Boston. This is an extraordinary opportunity to participate in the national professional organization, to contribute to discussions about the current state of women's affairs and to help shape its future. An effort to raise funds to defray students' costs is underway. For more information, contact Colette Morrow, director of women's studies, in CLO-288, at (219) 989-2256 or at morrow@calumet.purdue.edu.

Pachanga (Get Together)

Los Latinos invites everyone to the first Northwest Indiana Pachanga with events scheduled through March:

* NWI Hispanic Women's Forum Career Day. March 2000 at IUN.

For more information, call Roxanne M. Geraci at (219) 980-6686.

Hoosier A.D.A.P.T.

The PUC chapter of Hoosier A.D.A.P.T. is now located in SFLC-324E. Members of the organization seek to integrate the disabled and the nondisabled. For more information, visit the new office from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. or call Andrea Murray at (219) 932-4614.

Quote of the week

'When the door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.'

- Helen Keller
1880-1968

The Chronicle

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POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

PUC police beat 2/8/00 - 2/24/00

Friday, Feb. 24, 6:00 p.m. A student reported a flat tire on the right front of her vehicle while she was driving in the P-1 parking lot north of the Gyte building. The damage did not appear to be vandalism.

Friday, Feb. 24, 3:45 p.m. A student reported severely spraining her ankle after she tripped and fell on a stairway in the Gyte building. The victim was taken to the hospital by her mother.

Friday, Feb. 24, 11:14 a.m. A reported motor vehicle traffic accident in the P-10 parking lot south of Lawshe Hall. One vehicle, a PUC e-z go motorized cart, struck the side of another vehicle. There were no injuries.

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 4:15 p.m. A student reported receiving a burn on the underside of her forearm in the Gyte chemistry lab when she accidentally put her arm down on some spilled acid. Victim was treated at the scene.

Saturday, Feb. 19, 11:25 a.m. A staff member reported neck pains after slipping and falling backwards onto the pavement. The injured stated he was in the process of entering a vehicle when his foot slipped. Victim refused treatment.

Friday, Feb. 18, 7:15 p.m. A staff member reported striking his head on an overhead steel beam while entering a storage closet in the Gyte building. Victim was treated at the scene.

Thursday, Feb. 17, 3:30 p.m. A reported motor vehicle traffic accident in the P-7 parking lot North of Porter Hall. A second vehicle involved struck a legally parked vehicle and left the scene.

Friday, Feb. 11, 11:00 a.m. A student reported an unknown person left a note on her vehicle complaining about the way she parked in the P-7 parking lot north of Porter Hall. The note inferred that damage was done to her vehicle however nothing was found.

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2:00 p.m. A student reported cutting her right index finger on a boxcutter (for work) when she reached into her book bag while in class in the CLO building. Injury treated at the scene. Ambulance service was refused.

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

Campus profile:

EMS Mentoring and Learning Center

TIFFANY SANCHEZ
Production Manager

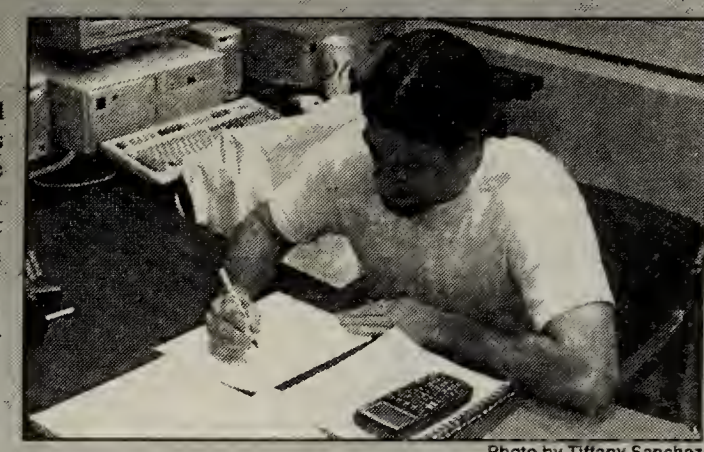

Photo by Tiffany Sanchez

Justin LaPlante, a senior biology major and mentor, studies for one of his classes between mentoring sessions.

Graphing calculators and equations with enough variables to warrant using a coma can be intimidating to many students. For those who tremble at the first sight of the Pythagorean theorem, the Engineering, Mathematics and Science Mentoring and Learning Center is there to help.

Funded by PUC's graduate school, the center offers academic help to EMS and technology students.

"The EMS Mentoring and Learning Center is well rounded and helps students with any academic concerns that they may have, including scheduling classes and study habits," Brendan McCarthy, a senior biology major and mentor, said.

"We are available to students at their whim for tutoring sessions. Someone is almost always in the office to offer help," he added.

The center's office is located in Gyte-148. The tutors have been active for three years, but the center was established as an office two years ago.

"We usually try to do most of the tutoring here in the office, but if things get too busy we will hold the session somewhere else. The physics mentors don't work out of the office; they work exclusively out of the physics lab," McCarthy said.

The mentors can be a resource to undecided students who are trying to make a decision concerning the field they would like to go into.

"I think the center can be very helpful for undecided students," Arnulfo Montalvo, a senior pre-pharmacy major and mentor, said.

"We can let the students know which classes we thought were interesting to take, how to better manage their time and how to build better study habits. It also helps both the student and myself brush up on our studies," he added.

Studying and knowing the course material is important, as it is with any major. A solid base can often be the key to keeping a grasp on one's educational goals.

"So much of the course material is cumulative from the course before," McCarthy said. "We are here to help students starting out in difficult majors build a strong foundation," he added.

"I like having the opportunity to help a student find that desire and love for the subject they enjoy," Justin LaPlante, a senior biology major and mentor, said.

EMS and technology students can come to the center for help any time. The EMS Mentoring and Learning Center currently has 10 mentors. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tutoring sessions are free and coffee is provided for red-eyed students.

For more information, call the office at 989-2139 or stop by Gyte-148.

EMS Mentoring and Learning Center

Director: Andy Schoon
Location: Gyte-148
Some of the services it provides: *tutoring sessions, help in deciding class schedule, advice on better study habits*
Phone: (219) 989-2139

Hoosier ADAPT

Continued from page 1

"We appreciate the help and the cooperation shown to the disabled students on the campus. Many students and faculty members have considered that the disabled persons have equal rights on the campus. Ron Ervin, from the police department has shown his cooperation by joining our organization," Murray said.

"Just by doing very small things, we can help the needy persons and that does not take much. Everyone on the campus should live with cooperation. We should try to help the persons with disability as it really makes a difference to that person," she said.

"We invite all the students and faculty members to come out and support the Hoosier ADAPT, so that we can maintain a harmonious atmosphere on the campus. Other students have to understand that the persons with disability are not different than other students," Murray said.

Entrepreneurship

Continued from page 1

"The program is very personalized. We want to create a gap between academic and business owners," he said.

Sandra Singer, the vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the program helps to diversify the economy.

"The program is making waves nationally. There is no other program like this," Singer said "The university is investing in the next generation of business people," she added.

Patricia Jackson, a current member and business owner for two years, said the program gave her motivation.

"I am already seeing growth in my company," Jackson said.

"Networking at meetings has been very beneficial," Shaw Collins, a Web-site designer, said. Collins said he made more money from networking than it cost him to become a member of the program. He said he was referred to the program by a few business owners who had already completed the program.

Timothy Sullivan, who completed the program last year, believes that the program gave him immediate results.

"I got practical information I can use now," Sullivan said.

Women

Continued from page 1

Colette Morrow, director of the women's study program at PUC, said that men also qualify for this award and non-minors of women's studies are encouraged to turn in an application.

Interested students will have to fill out an application, obtain a copy of their transcript and write a 150 to 300-word essay answering the question, "How has participation in the women's studies program had an impact on you?"

Students also need three letters of recommendation with at least one from a PUC faculty member.

Women's studies minors and associate degree candidates should submit an adviser's statement verifying the applicant's interest. Students can pick up applications and are to submit all necessary paperwork to the Office of Financial Aid in Lawshe-130 or the Women's Studies Office in CLO-289 by March 21.

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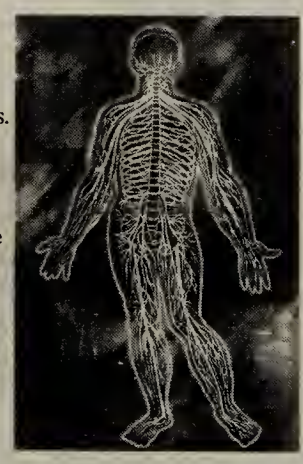

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Students with disabilities face greater obstacles on everyday basis

Disability Awareness Month is celebrated this month and it brings to our attention the issue of students and faculty members that must deal with disabilities on a day to day basis.

Talking to several students with disabilities, you find that they say they are treated like an outcast at the university by many students as well as some faculty members.

This behavior could be due to the fact that many people have not got an opportunity to get to know a person with a disability. Many students say they get nervous or do not know how to react to people that are different from them. They are different in only one aspect; they look at life as a 12-round boxing match that they are winning.

An average day in the life of a person with a disability is a challenge from the time the sun rises. While most students hop into their cars and drive to school, a student with a disability must wait for a ride from another person whether it is a relative, friend or transportation service.

When they arrive to school, they must face the challenge of getting into a building. Older buildings like Gyte and Porter give some students, who use a wheelchair, a challenge even getting into the building. The width of the entrances in the Gyte building make it very difficult for students with disabilities to get into the building. If students with disabilities want to get a drink of water on the way to their class, forget about it. The fountains are too high for a student using a wheelchair to get a drink.

In Porter Hall, a person using a wheelchair faces a challenge every time he or she uses the bathroom. The entrance to the bathrooms on the first floor are positioned in such a way that it is virtually impossible to get into the bathroom with a wheelchair.

While in the classroom, imagine not being able to have a desk or table to write on. Imagine trying to take notes with when you have to rest your notebook on your lap. This is just one more thing that disabled students have to deal with.

We can better understand the problems that students with disabilities face by stepping into their shoes for a day. Let's try using the sink in the washroom when a garbage can is in front of it or trying to get into a handicapped stall only to find that someone else is in it.

If that is not enough, students with disabilities have been stereotyped as "dumb or special."

Students with disabilities are special people. It takes a special person to put up with the hassle of waiting for rides, trying to go places on campus that do not accommodate you and dealing with people who treat you differently. The motivation and drive behind people like Hoosier ADAPT President Andrea Murray should be an inspiration to us all.

This month should provide us with the opportunity to admire students with disabilities for the courageous people that they are.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

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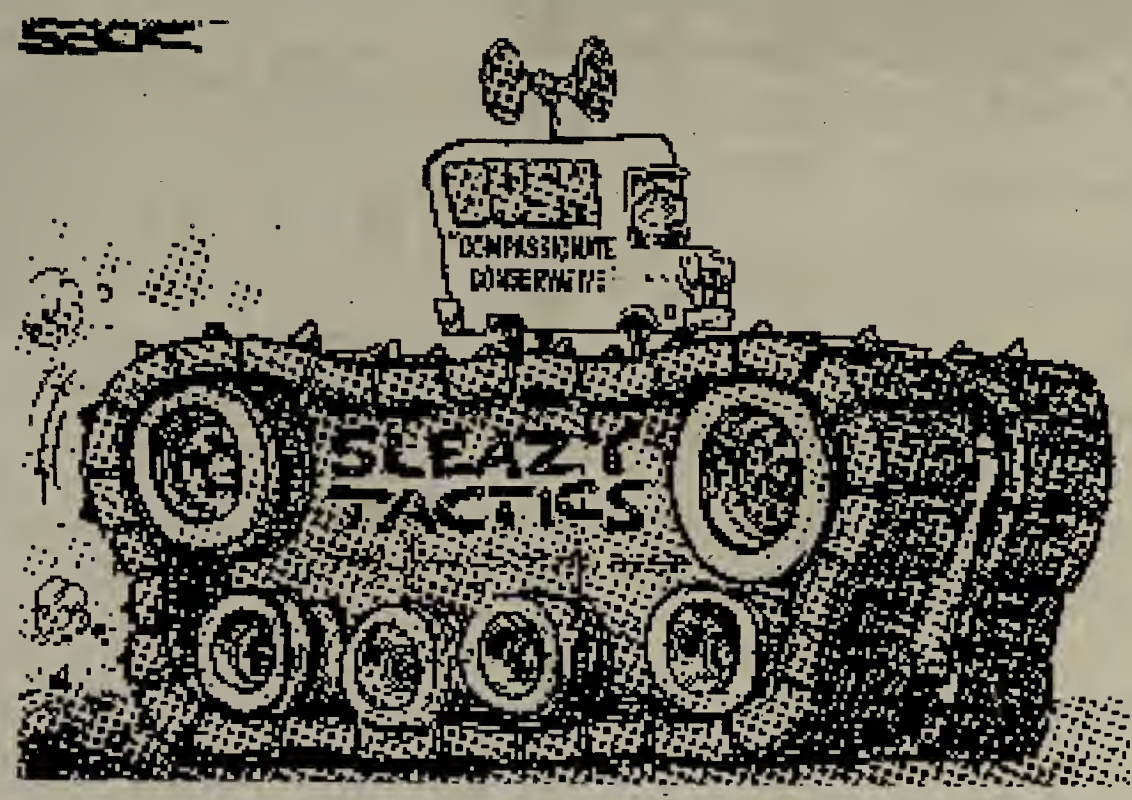
The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.



Letter to the editor

The SGA responds to editorial

We, the SGA, would like to clear up a few misconceptions that appeared in last week's editorial. First of all, the meeting that took place on Feb. 21 was not an SSF meeting of any kind. The SGA members that did attend did so more as a courtesy than any obligation. Originally, that meeting was to take place the week before, but because of last minute schedule conflicts and a lack of full knowledge on the topic matter by two of the faculty members, it was postponed. The purpose of the meeting was so the survey planning members could explain how the survey was being conducted and why it was being conducted that way. As always, the SGA members listened and took into account the advice the faculty had to give, but because all this advice was given the day before the survey was to take place much of the information could not be implemented. Never have we ignored or refused any help offered to us. All of the work had already been done as far as obtaining permission from professors, asking volunteers to distribute it and producing the survey with money also belonging to the SGA members. With a 100 percent response rate, and for the purpose the survey was to serve, it is considered valid and useful. In the past, SGA has always been criticized for not involving students in the choices the organizations makes. Through this survey and the way it was distributed, we personalized it to the students in a more effective way than an anonymous mail out survey would have done. We, as student organization members, are volunteering our time and hard work for the betterment of campus life here at PUC. At times certain activities are conducted by organizations for the benefit of students. If some members of faculty or administration have a problem with whatever activity is taking place, it has proven to be extremely troublesome for the organization to fulfill its purpose then and in the future. No organization should be discouraged from obtaining their personal goals just because of a difference of opinion. As long as the lines of communication are clear and direct, nothing negative can come out of a differing of views. This is a position we feel should be maintained by all parties involved, but foremost by the administration. After all, we look to them to set the only example of professionalism we have to follow.

Sincerely,
Student Government Association

The people speak

Question of the Week: Do you think the confederate flag should be hanging from the capitol building in South Carolina?

Heather Barton
senior, accounting
" I think it is a part of history, but it shouldn't necessarily be in front of a government building."

Doug Reder
sophomore, CIS
" It doesn't really matter to me. I think people are making too big an issue out of it."

James Childers
junior, CIS
"Yes, it is part of our history that not everybody agrees with. They should be able to put it next to the other one."

Dimpal Patel
senior, accounting
"No, I think only the American flag should fly because last time I checked South Carolina was part of the U.S. Therefore, they should respect this particular flag."

Draper Fair
freshman, radio/television
"No. It represents discrimination. If people remember, the confederation wanted to uphold slavery. It is a symbol that they are trying to bring racism back, and it is also not setting a good example."

Let your voice be heard. Write a letter to the editor.
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ALDI will be having a recruitment presentation in SFLC-301 on Thursday March 30 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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For more info, come to the presentation!
For Business management, human resources, accounting, finance, marketing, and communication majors.

Driving with RAGE

Road rage has become a national pastime on America's streets, but there are ways to prevent it from happening to you.

ED CIECHOMSKI
Staff Writer

Dragging along the tracks, a freight train rudely interrupts an already delayed car ride to school. A glance down the rail and there's no end in sight. Behind you, a man has strategically placed his car so that it is impossible to turn around. Suddenly, the stress becomes overwhelming and you start honking at the engineer that is two miles away and swearing at the man behind you. It's aggressive driving behavior that has consumed you, more commonly known as road rage.

The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that two-thirds of fatalities are at least partially caused by aggressive driving. Deliberately braking suddenly, tailgating and flashing an obscene gesture are all symptoms of the road rage epidemic. According to Hammond Police Officer John Crooks, a traffic analyst, everybody becomes vulnerable to road rage.

"Everyone's vulnerable but I would base it on driving experience and record. The drivers with less driving experience get more frustrated," Crooks said.

The American Automobile Association claims that violent driving incidents are rising at a rate of 7 percent a year since 1990. Every year more cars fill the streets causing more drivers to become victim of road rage.

"Sometimes you can't take it anymore and just become a jerk," Cary Miller, a criminal justice major, said.

Although road rage is everywhere, Crooks believes that larger cities are more susceptible to over aggressive drivers. The combination of more traffic and construction, according to Crooks, results in more road rage. A study done by the Federal Highway Administration indicates that almost 70 percent of urban freeways today are congested during rush hour.

Amy Cuevas, an undecided major, drives to campus twice a week as well as has a job.

"If I'm in a hurry, you'd better watch out," she said.

A variety of circumstances can ignite the flame of an overaggressive driver, often referred to as "Mad Max." A train crawling down the tracks, a driver who neglects his turn signals or stoplight are just a few of the things that can turn a simple motorist into a raging "Mad Max."

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Ricardo Martinez provides some suggestions to drivers to help keep the road-rage bug from biting.

First, Martinez believes that one shouldn't take a simple traffic problem personally. Also, he suggests using the horn sparingly. Blocking the passing lane or the turn lane is never a good idea. It tends to frustrate others. Refraining from tailgating will also reduce the change of road rage.

Many drivers become so enraged that they will follow the person that has put them over the edge home or actually get out of their car in order to do some physical harm to either the driver or the car they drive. Regardless, an obvious road-rager should be reported to the local police department.

Cell phones, blasting boom boxes and inappropriate bumper stickers are all catching on quickly and more drivers are resulting to aggressive measures in order to avoid these types of drivers. Many governments are now considering making driver's education programs mandatory. In the U.S., only 40 percent of new drivers complete such a course.

Instead of beating the clock all the time, drivers should instead sit back, relax and enjoy the journey. Dr. John Larson, an expert in stress, believes some soothing music may just do the trick. Slower drivers should also stay out of the left lane whenever possible.

Finally, if avoiding a "Mad Max" is impossible, do not look him or her in the eyes. Simply, stare at the road and pretend as if they cannot be seen. Often, road rage becomes a lethal game and a glance at the aggressive driver at your side may make you a voluntary player.

Horoscopes

For the week of March 6

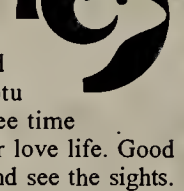
BEN MOONDANCER
Special to the Chronicle

The term "retrograde" means that the object in the sky retreats below the horizon. When viewing this, the object will appear to reverse direction in the sky. Although a psychical impossibility, the object is a victim of our orbit and relative position. This makes the phenomenon possible and amazing to watch.

We have entered a Mercury retrograde. It began on Thursday, Feb. 21, in the sign of Aries, at 17 degrees, 10 minutes and seven seconds. During this time, people have a tendency to make decisions that after Mercury goes "direct." They need to change again. Because of the place, Mercury retrogrades. One should be aware of head and throat ailments and injury. You should be aware that contractual documents should not be started. You might over look important details. Be alert to mechanical failure during this Mercury retrograde. Traffic patterns may be erratic. Give yourself more time to travel.

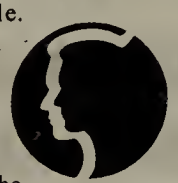
PISCES: Wear your best this week as eyes are on your dramatic flair and activity. Romance is around you and you have everyone's attention. Be sure to close zippers and check wardrobe before entering into public. Stay calm, stay alert and don't confuse the issues. New moon on March 6, would be perfect time to start planning new direction. If you're married, your partner could see promotion at work.

ARIES: Maintain your own good cheer and stay calm. Next month, you can get it off your chest. Try some tender words and small impromptu uses of your free time to spice up your love life. Good time to travel and see the sights. Watch for erratic attitudes. Stay away from volunteering advice. Enjoy yourself in art and music events.



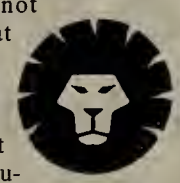
TAURUS: Watch those words of love. The eyes say "yes, yes," but the mind is in neutral. Reality check. Action speaks louder than words, let them prove love is real. You are talking and others are talking about you. Stay out of conflicts that do not serve rational purpose. People may provoke you, but leave the situation alone. Money aspects look good this week. Play your lucky number. Smile more.

GEMINI: This week will be mildly enjoyable. Attitudes soften and the pace slows. Study your courses this week and take notes. All the signals point to romance heating up. Watch your speed driving and traffic patterns. Mars aspect is softer this week. Kiss and make up. Try not to promise more than you can keep. If you are seeing more than one person romantically, make up your mind. They may be ready to go next level. Watch for muscle strain and bone damage in sports.



CANCER: Moon aspects from waxing to new phases are generally good. Sit back and watch the fun. Many people look silly to you this week. Avoid fashion trends and off-rack sales. You will be returning them next week anyway. Check foot problems and weight concerns. Have some friends over and enjoy the week. Sort out old clothes and articles. Clean out those closets and basements.

LEO: Watch your temper and tongue. Do not shoot off at mouth without all the details. Hasty conclusions lead to fast apology. The situation is not what it may seem. Times are difficult, but not desperate. Try to calm down. This week you should focus on immediate goals. As this year progresses you will gain what is lost now. Wear comfort and smile. Keep the faith and stay busy. Remember to pay attention to detail.



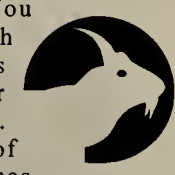
VIRGO: Mercury rules. This week will drive you frantic. This is the worst it will be. After this week, most aspects look good until summer. Stay focused and stay out of the way. You are most likely to be the "innocent bystander" injured in argument accidentally. Stay neutral and stay out of third party conversations. Try your luck at new hobby or interest. Love aspect looks calm and serene. Just do not get too picky.

LIBRA: All the fun of last week's chaos will continue. You should just hide until over. Love of life this week will bring you to social function and romantic interlude. Girls, you shine in soft rich colors, accent your eyes and hair. Guys should show bright smiles and nice attitudes. Money will continue to improve. Stay away from hard emotional attitudes. Mars aspect make for sudden stops and quick changes in plans. Stay versatile.

SCORPIO: Wait for the complete message. Keep the facts straight this week. Allow more time in the completion of projects. Watch for small errors in detailed work. Math could be off. Check the numbers again. Take nothing for granted this week. Play your hunch; it will pay off. Avoid hard attitudes and confrontations. Use common sense.

SAGITTARIUS: This week will be fun and fast. Watch your money. Over spending could cancel future plans. Make sure locks are locked and keys are in your pocket first before closing the door. Look before leaping in love matters. Try to be patient and give your partners time to think of a response. Romance is great this week. Watch your speed.

CAPRICORN: Last weekend's fun continues into this week. You should finish work projects and watch your money flow. Take care of health issues. Otherwise the week is smooth sailing and you should be very pleased with results. Romance is even and enjoyable. Clean out the corners and throw out the old. This year looks to be good for this sign.



AQUARIUS: Watch your money and mouth. You give too much of both this week. Try smiling and being noncommittal. Take your new ideas to new location to try them out. Music events this week are highlighted. You should be feeling good and looking good. Watch for speeding cars. If you bike ride watch for traffic in blind spots. Do not travel on motorbikes without your helmet this week. Watch for injuries to fingers.

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Lady Lakers lose lead, end season

After a rough season, the Lady Lakers must look to the future after playoff loss

CHENITA MORRIS
Staff Writer

With the loss of three of their five starters, the Lady Lakers found themselves in a position they thought might not be possible—the playoffs.

The Lady Lakers (13-16) faced the Illinois Institute of Technology (5-18) Feb. 29 in what would turn out to be the toughest battle of the season. This game marked the first round of the CCAC tournament for the Lady Lakers, who entered the tournament as the fourth seed. IIT entered the tournament as the fifth seeded team.

The Lady Lakers lost to the IIT Lady Scarlet Hawks by two points with a score of 52-50. The Lady Lakers let the lead slip away with about :30 left when the Lady Scarlet Hawks scored four points off of the turnovers by the Lady Lakers.

The Lady Lakers put IIT on the free-throw line with a couple late fouls. The Lady Scarlet Hawks made the free throws to seal the victory.

With this loss, the Lady Lakers were eliminated from the playoffs, preventing them from moving on in the conference tournament.

Poor shooting lost the game for the Lady Lakers. In the first half, they shot 32.4 percent from the field and 20.7 percent in the second half. From the three-point line in the first half, the Lady Lakers shot 14.3 percent and went 0-8 in the second half of the game. Overall, the Lady Lakers shot 27.3 percent from the field and 9 percent from the three-point line.

Although they had a rough shooting night from the field, the Lady Lakers did a much better job on the free-throw line.

In the first half, they shot 66.7 percent from the line, hitting 6-9 free throws. In the second half, the Lady Lakers went 6-8 from the line, shooting 75 percent in the second half. Overall, they shot 70.6 percent from the line.

Chandler went 1-15 from the field, 1-10 from the three-point line and had six turnovers. Chandler ended the game with seven points, five rebounds, four assists and three steals.

Christy Koby also struggled, going 0-4 from the field and 0-2 from the three-point line. She had three assists, two rebounds, one steal and committed one turnover.

The leading scorer for the Lady Lakers was Kelly Thompson, who had a double-double, scoring 12 points and pulling down 12 rebounds. Thompson went 6-15 from the field and 0-1 from the free-throw line, adding three steals and one turnover.

Kelly Rich and Emily Schwoegler each added 10 points for the Lady Lakers.

Schwoegler had four rebounds, two turnovers, one assist and one steal. Schwoegler went 4-4 from the free-throw line and 3-7 from the field.

Melissa Austin also contributed with her eight points and three rebounds. Austin went 3-4 from the field and was perfect from the line, going 2-2.

Megan Smith, the Lady Lakers secret weapon off the bench, had a bad night also. She was 1-8 from the field and the three-point line. Smith had four assists, two rebounds and one steal in the Lady Laker's losing effort.

Although the Lady Lakers out rebounded the Lady Hawks 47-36, it still wasn't enough to help them pull off a victory when they lost their eight-point lead with a minute to go.

The loss of this game marks the end of the season.

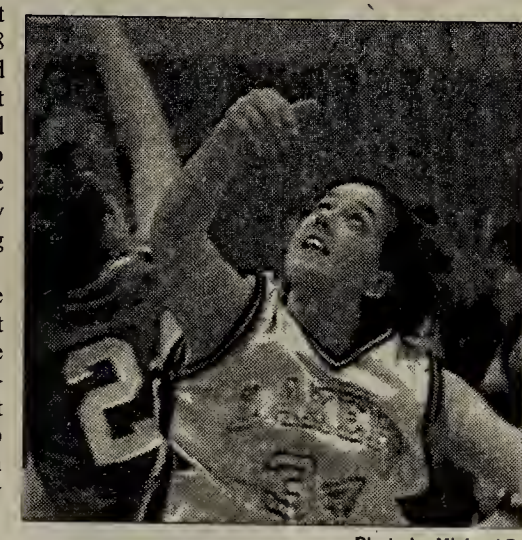

Photo by Michael D. Stewart

Melissa Austin stretches for one of her three rebounds in a 52-50 losing effort to the Illinois Institute of Technology to end the season for the Lady Lakers.

Lady Lakers All-Conference Honors

Two Lady Lakers received conference honors on Sunday.

Christina Chandler was named to the CCAC All-Conference team. Chandler was the leading scorer in the CCAC during the regular season with 17 points per game.

Melissa Austin named to the CCAC Honorable Mention team and ended the season as the fifth-ranked rebounder in the CCAC. Austin pulled 7.0 rebounds per game for the season. Congratulations to the Lady Laker conference honorees.

Intramural Basketball Championship

The Thunderstorm beat Hot Boy's 66-64 in overtime on Feb. 20 to claim the championship of the PUC Spring 2000 Basketball Tournament.

Yassir Isa scored 16 points to lead the Thunderstorm, including the game-winning lay-up with :06 left in overtime.

The Thunderstorm team included: Joe Delrio, Jon Delrio, Joe Rechlicz, Jon Foster, Kenny Boyd and Isa.

Ken Curry led the Hot Boy's with 20 points.

TFC Seminar

The Total Fitness Center will offer their seminar called "Introduction to Resistance Training for Seniors" on Mar. 22. The seminar will be held by John Bobalik, the coordinator of the TFC, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will be free of charge. There are 25 seats open and pre-registration is required. Resistance machines will be explained and demonstrated. Participants should wear exercise attire. To register or for more information call (219) 989-2175.

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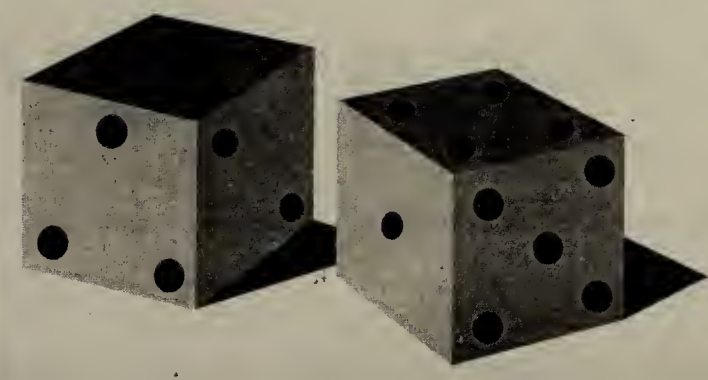
MAJORS FAIR
Tuesday, March 7, 2000
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Abortion stops a beating heart

Lake County Right To Life (219) 845-2962